

Alaska Local and Regional Information

Workforce Info

Palmer

Palmer is a home rule city located in the Matanuska Valley, about 42 miles northeast of Anchorage on the Glenn Highway. Many Palmer residents work in Anchorage. Palmer is part of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

- ♦ The estimated population for 2008 was 5,559, a gain of about 1,026 since the 2000 Census.
- ♦ About 60 percent of the resident population 16+ years old worked in 2008.
- ♦ Trade, Transportation and Utilities was the main industry in 2008, employing 22 percent of the area's workers.
- ♦ More workers were employed as Retail Salespersons than any other occupation.

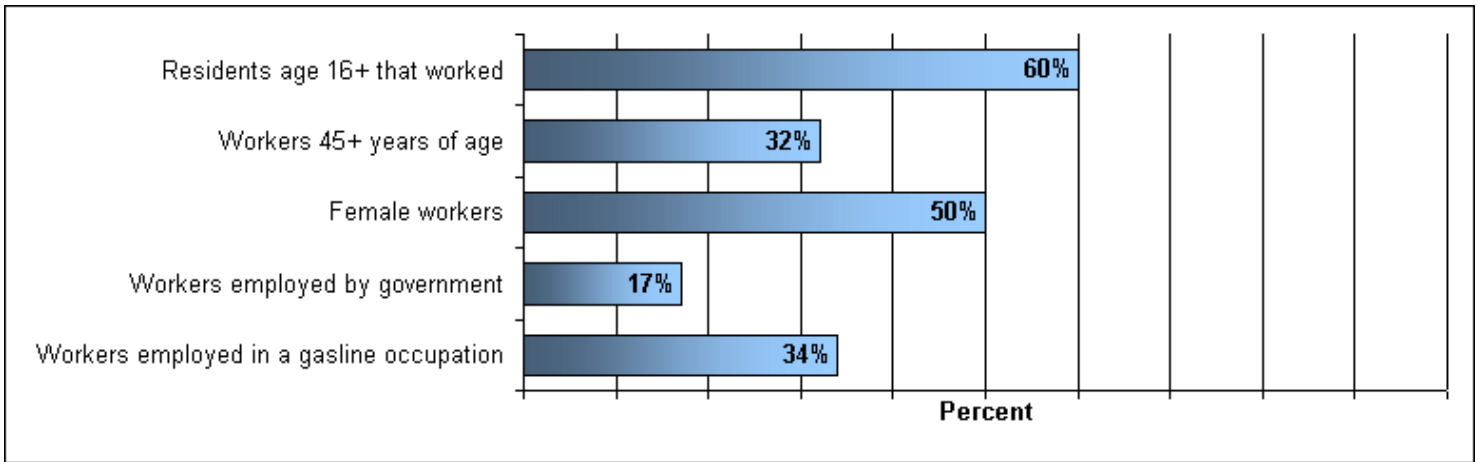
Please note: There is an important distinction between the local/regional employment data and our "standard" employment series. Most of these data reflect totals for area residents only. Total worker counts may be lower than expected in areas with a large number of nonresident workers. The Alaska Permanent Fund dividend file is used to determine the worker's geographic residence. Only Alaska residents (as defined by PFD application) are included in these totals. Also note that federal employees, the military, and the self-employed are not included in these data.

Palmer Resident Snapshot (2008)

Working Age Residents		Wages	
Residents age 16+	4,135	Total wages	\$79,202,978
Resident Worker Characteristics		Resident Workers by Sector	
Total	2,489	Private	2,056
Male	1,240	State government	170
Female	1,249	Local government	264
Age 45+	799	Quarterly Number of Resident Workers	
Age 50+	528	Peak (3rd) quarter workers	2,213
		Percent working all 4 quarters	66.9%
Unemployment		Construction/AGIA Occupation Experience (2004-2008)	
UI Claimants	386	Some construction	559
		At least 1 year construction	339
		At least 2 years construction	227
New Hires		Worked in an AGIA occupation	1,691
New hires	1,031		

An asterisk (*) means data are suppressed. Numbers may not sum due to rounding. **AGIA** (Alaska Gasline Inducement Act) means the occupation has been identified as a core occupation involved in the gasline project.

2008 Residents

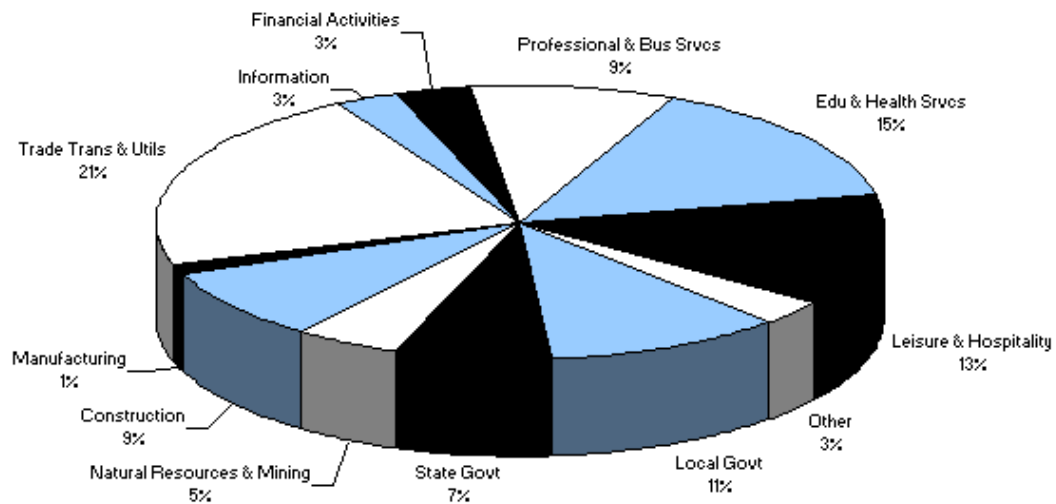


Top Occupations

	Number employed	Percent female	Age 45+	Age 50+
Retail Salespersons	114	58.8%	26	16
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	91	50.5%	7	0
Cashiers	89	70.8%	16	10
Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	56	71.4%	24	16
Construction Laborers AGIA HOT JOB	50	12.0%	14	7
Office Clerks, General AGIA	50	80.0%	24	14
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners AGIA	46	39.1%	17	12
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks AGIA HOT JOB	37	91.9%	19	11
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	37	81.1%	17	12
Personal and Home Care Aides	35	88.6%	17	13
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other AGIA	35	68.6%	8	5
Receptionists and Information Clerks AGIA	35	88.6%	9	7
Carpenters AGIA HOT JOB	34	2.9%	9	7
Food Preparation Workers AGIA	32	68.8%	7	4
Customer Service Representatives	30	73.3%	8	3
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators AGIA HOT JOB	30	10.0%	11	3
Electricians AGIA HOT JOB	30	6.7%	6	3
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand AGIA	29	10.3%	6	5
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	29	89.7%	5	4
Registered Nurses HOT JOB	29	100.0%	19	14

An asterisk (*) means data are suppressed. **AGIA** (Alaska Gasline Inducement Act) means the occupation has been identified as a core occupation involved in the gasline project. **HOT JOB** means the occupation is projected to have a high growth rate and numerous openings, and has an above average wage.

Resident Workers by Industry



Workers by Industry

	Number employed	Percent female	Age 45+	Age 50+
Natural Resources and Mining	117	13.7%	31	20
Construction	215	13.5%	61	42
Manufacturing	30	20.0%	13	7
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	539	44.7%	148	93
Information	71	52.1%	28	18
Financial Activities	77	62.3%	23	13
Professional and Business Services	234	43.2%	76	43
Educational and Health Services	364	83.5%	142	106
Leisure and Hospitality	332	58.1%	54	33
State Government	170	48.8%	79	60
Local Government	264	62.5%	124	78
Other	75	34.7%	20	15
Unknown	*	*	*	*

An asterisk (*) means data are suppressed.

Recent Unemployment Statistics

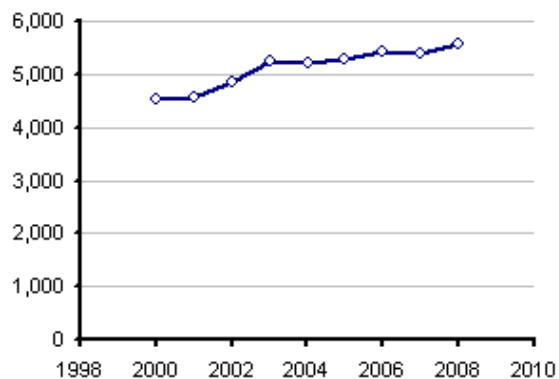
	09/2009	10/2009	11/2009	12/2009
UI Claimants**	595	675	829	937

**UI claimants are individuals in this area who had an active claim at any time during the month.

Top Employers (ranked by number of workers)

State of AK (excludes U of A)
Mat Su Borough Schools
Fred Meyer Stores Inc
Wal-Mart Associates Inc
Safeway Inc
Matanuska Susitna Borough
Palmer-Wasilla Health System LLC
Nana Management Services LLC
Matanuska Telephone Assoc Inc
McDonald's Restaurants of AK

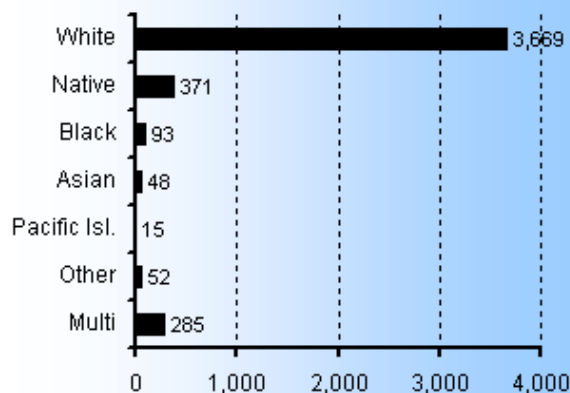
Population over Time



2000 Census

Median Age	28.8
Average Family Size	3.3
Average Household Size	2.8
Per Capita Income	\$17,203
Median Family Income	\$53,164
Median Household Income	\$45,571

Population by Race



(Note: Racial classification is based on self identification. The "Multi" category consists of those who claim to be members of more than one race. The "Native" category includes Alaska Natives and American Indians.)

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section
Last updated: 02-Feb-10